

12. During the Civil War.

1862—1865.

The California and Nevada Volunteers. The guarding of the mail route and telegraph line over the Indian-infested mountains and plains—a duty first performed by a portion of the Utah militia—was now placed upon Colonel P. E. Connor and the California and Nevada Volunteers. These troops arrived from the west in October, 1862. They had enlisted to fight for the Union in the war then going on between the North and the South, and it was much to their disappointment that they were ordered to this Territory.



GENERAL P. E. CONNOR.

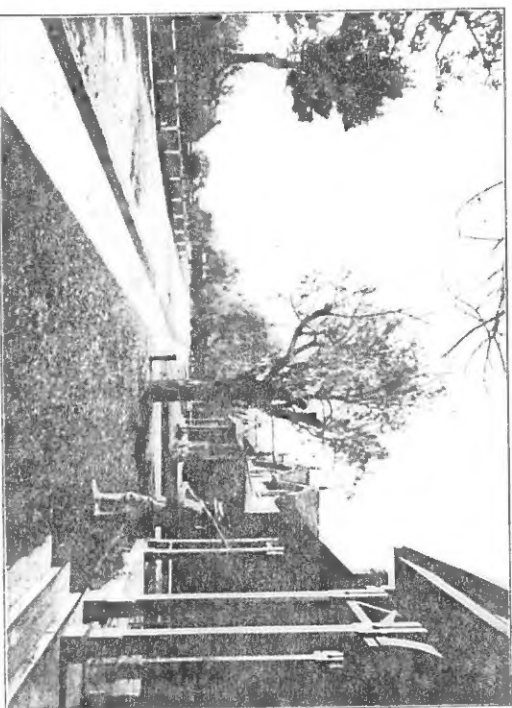
Their commander, who had been a captain during the Mexican War, was one of the first to place his sword at his country's service after the breaking out of the great Rebellion. Having been made a Colonel of Infantry by the Governor of California, he had recruited

his companies and was expecting to be sent to the front when he received the disappointing order to march to Utah.

Vedette Duty. It was not merely to guard the overland route that these volunteers were sent: it was to watch over affairs and keep the Government informed regarding events in and around Salt Lake City. The impression made on the mind of the Nation by the Echo Canyon War had not been entirely dispelled. The loyalty of Utah was still in question, and it was thought well to keep an eye upon her.* As to the feeling over the troops, the people here had little if any objection to their coming, but they resented in their hearts the imputation that came with them, reflecting upon the patriotism of the community.

Colonel Connor's command set out for Utah in July. It then consisted of the Third California Infantry and part of the Second California Cavalry. On the way a few companies from Nevada joined them, making the entire force a little more than seven hundred men. The Colonel, in advance and alone, arrived at Salt Lake City on the ninth of September. After selecting a site for a military post he returned to Ruby Valley, Nevada, and led his troops hither. On the seventeenth of October they reached Fort Crit-

*In California there was talk of a Western Confederacy, should the Southern Confederacy succeed in winning its independence, and the authorities at Washington were not aware that Utah had received and rejected overtures from the South, which, if accepted, would have led her into the ranks of rebellion.



OFFICERS' QUARTERS, FORT DOUGLAS.

tenden (Camp Floyd), and on the twentieth entered the capital.

Fort Douglas. Having saluted the Governor at the executive residence, the little army, with bands playing and colors flying, marched on to the eastern foothills overlooking the town, and there encamped preparatory to building Fort Douglas. Until the erection of regular barracks, the volunteers sheltered themselves in huts and dug-outs, the monotony of camp life being varied by occasional sorties against the Indians.*

*Fort Douglas—originally called Camp Douglas—was named for Senator Stephen A. Douglas. It is situated about two and a half miles from Main Street, Salt Lake City. The Volunteers who founded the post occupied it until the close of the Civil War, when they were relieved by regular troops from the East.

The Battle of Bear River. In January, 1863, was fought the battle of Bear River, where Colonel Connor with about three hundred men defeated an equally numerous band of Indians and completely broke the power of the hostiles in that region. The battle occurred on the twenty-ninth. Among the incidents leading up to it was the proposed arrest of three Indian chiefs, who, with their followers, had killed some miners in Cache Valley. This information came to Chief Justice Kinney on the nineteenth of January. Warrants of arrest were immediately placed in the hands of United States Marshal Isaac L. Gibbs, and he, realizing that resistance would be offered, laid the matter before the commander at Fort Douglas.

Three days later Colonel Connor started a company of infantry with two howitzers for the camp of the hostiles, twelve miles from Franklin, now in Idaho. On the twenty-fifth, the Colonel himself followed, with four companies of cavalry, having as a guide Orrin Porter Rockwell, who, like Lot Smith, had taken a prominent part in the Echo Canyon campaign. Marshal Gibbs also went with the expedition. The hardships of the march were extreme, the snow being deep and the cold intense. Many of the soldiers had their feet frozen. Probably not more than two hundred men took part in the engagement.

The battle began at six o'clock in the morning. The Indians were entrenched in a narrow, dry ravine, with steep, rocky sides, where they were sheltered from the fire of their assailants. The soldiers, while

advancing along the level tableland, were exposed to the volleys of the concealed foe. Several fell, killed or wounded, at the first fire. These were cavalrymen, who were endeavoring to surround the savages when the latter defeated the movement by attacking them. Meantime the infantry had forded the icy waters of Bear River, and a successful flanking movement enabled the troops to pour an enfilading fire into the ravine. The Indians fought with fury, but were now at a disadvantage. By ten o'clock they were routed, and two hundred warriors lay dead upon the field. Among the slain were Bear Hunter, Sagwitch, and Lehi. Two other chiefs, Sanpitch and Pocatello, with probably fifty braves, escaped.*

The losses on the other side were fourteen men killed and forty-nine wounded. Eight of these died within ten days, the number including Lieutenant Darwin Chase. The battle of Bear River was a great benefit to the settlers of Northern Utah. It gave the Indians a warning that did not have to be repeated. The military authorities at Washington praised and congratulated the brave Californians, and two months later Colonel Conner was commissioned a Brigadier-General.†

Governor Harding. The Governor of Utah at that time was Stephen S. Harding, of Indiana. He

*Seventy lodges were burned, and a large quantity of grain, implements, and other property, believed to have been stolen from emigrants, was destroyed or carried to Camp Douglas and sold.

†Subsequently he became a Major-General for gallant conduct at an Indian battle in Montana.

had arrived from the East in July, 1862, followed a few days later by Judges Charles B. Waite and Thomas J. Drake, who succeeded Judges Flenniken and Crosby. The new Governor made an eloquent speech at the Pioneer Day celebration soon after his arrival,



STEPHEN S. HARDING.
Fourth Governor of the Territory of Utah, from 1862 to 1863.

praising the industry and patriotism of the people, and declaring that he came among them "a messenger of peace and good will." In an address of welcome to Colonel Connor and the Volunteers he expressed some disappointment at their coming to Salt Lake City instead of re-occupying old Fort Crittenden, but he disclaimed for the Government and its representatives any unfriendly motive in connection with the

troops. He advised citizens and soldiers to respect each other's rights.

A Change of Feeling. Governor Harding had not been long in Utah when his feelings underwent a change. He adopted the notion prevalent at Fort Douglas, that the people here were not in sympathy with the Government, and in his first message to the Legislature (December, 1862) he criticised them on

that score. A little later he, with Judges Waite and Drake, was charged with seeking to influence Congress to enact laws hurtful to the interests of the Territory. They were publicly censured in mass meetings held for that purpose, and President Lincoln was petitioned to remove them. As an offset, Colonel Connor and his officers sent a petition to Washington asking that the Governor and the two Judges be retained in their places. A committee of citizens, appointed to wait upon them and request them to resign, met with a flat refusal.

Strained Relations. A very bitter feeling now prevailed, and the relations between civilians and soldiers were tense and strained. A collision seemed imminent. The most exciting rumors were telegraphed east and west, and the press throughout the country teemed with comments upon the prospect of "another Utah war."

Convictions and Pardons. In March, 1863, the Morrisites captured at Kington Fort were tried before Chief Justice Kinney. Ten of them had been indicted for killing two members of the marshal's posse. Seven were convicted of murder in the second degree, two were acquitted, and the remaining one was not prosecuted. Those convicted were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. Sixty-nine others were fined one hundred dollars each for resisting an officer of the law.

Within three days of the trial Governor Harding, in response to petitions signed by Federal and Fort

13. Later in the "Sixties."

1865—1869.

The Colfax Visit. In the summer of 1865 a number of distinguished people visited the Territory. Among them was the Honorable Schuyler Colfax, Speaker of the House of Representatives. In his party were Lieutenant-Governor William Bross, of Illinois; Samuel Bowles, editor of the Springfield (Massachusetts) Republican; and Albert D. Richardson, of the editorial staff of the New York Tribune. They arrived at the capital on the eleventh of June, remained eight days, and then proceeded on to California.

It had been largely owing to Speaker Colfax and his services in Congress that the Great West was now in the enjoyment of a daily mail, as well as a telegraph line, and was about to have the railroad for which it had waited so long. He and his friends, to use their own words, were "the recipients of a generous and thoughtful hospitality." The coach containing them, after leaving Fort Douglas, where they had halted for refreshments, was met on the foothills by a committee of reception, who conducted the visitors to the Salt Lake House,* where apartments had been pre-

*The Salt Lake House, our leading hotel at that time, stood on the east side of Main Street, about half way between First South and Second South streets.

pared for them. They were the guests of the City during their stay.*

Death of Governor Doty. While the Colfax party was at Salt Lake City, Governor Doty died (June 13), and at the funeral two days later Mr. Colfax acted as one of the pall-bearers. The deceased was a native of the State of New York, but had come to Utah from Wisconsin. He was in his sixty-sixth year when death summoned him. Governor Doty was sincerely mourned, for he was much beloved. The obsequies were held at the executive residence, and the interment took place at Fort Douglas.



JAMES DUANE DOTY.
Fifth Governor of the Territory of Utah, from 1863 to 1865

Julia Dean Hayne. The next notable visitor was

*A speech by Mr. Colfax from the hotel balcony; two formal interviews between him and President Brigham Young; a trip to Rush Valley, to view the mining operations there; a bath in the Great Salt Lake; a special performance at the Theatre; a Sunday service at the Tabernacle, with President Young as the speaker; and later in the day an oration at the same place by Speaker Colfax on the life and principles of Abraham Lincoln, were the main incidents of the visit. In his book, "Across the Continent," Mr. Bowles thus

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fell heir to the good will entertained for his predecessor. With him came Colonel Franklin H. Head, who now took charge of the red men.

Indian Treaties. Colonel Irish and Colonel Head were both efficient Indian superintendents. It was



CHARLES DURKEE,
Sixth Governor of the Territory of Utah, from 1865 to 1869.

due to the former, aided by the influence of President Young, that a treaty was made with fifteen chiefs at the Spanish Fork Reservation farm, in June, 1865. Among those present were Kanosh, Sowiette, Sanpitch and Tabby. The Indians promised to move within a year to Uintah Valley, giving up their title to the lands they were then occupying. They agreed to be peaceful, to cultivate the reservation lands, and send their children to the schools established for

sand inhabitants,—remember Salt Lake has less than twenty thousand,—possesses so fine a theatrical structure. It ranks, alike in capacity and elegance of structure and finish, along with the opera houses and academies of music of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Cincinnati. In costumes and scenery it is furnished with equal richness and variety, and the performances themselves, though by amateurs, by merchants and mechanics, by wives and daughters of citizens, would have done credit to a first class professional company."

them. The Government promised to protect them, to furnish them with houses and employment, and to pay yearly sums to the principal chiefs; also to distribute annually among the tribes twenty-five thousand dollars for ten years, twenty thousand dollars for the next twenty years, and fifteen thousand dollars for thirty years thereafter. The Indians were permitted to hunt, dig roots, and gather berries on all unoccupied lands, and to fish in their accustomed places. All the chiefs named signed the treaty.*

The Black Hawk War. This treaty was made during the progress of an Indian war, which, though desultory in character, was the most serious conflict that the settlers ever had with the savages. At its close the war whoop and the scalping knife disappeared from Territorial history. It began in April, 1865, and lasted until the latter part of 1867. About seventy white people were killed, and a great amount of property was destroyed. Six extensive and flourishing settlements in Sevier and Piute counties, four settlements in Sanpete County, fifteen in Iron, Kane, and Washington counties, and two or three in Wasatch county, were abandoned, with an almost total loss of stock and improvements. The leader of the hostiles was a chief named Black Hawk, and most of his followers were renegade Utes. Sanpitch, violating the pledge that he had given, joined in some of the raids,

*About the middle of September Colonel Irish concluded a similar treaty with the Piede Indians in Washington County, and later Colonel Head rendered like service with other tribes.